

Message Text

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73

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 FEA-01

AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 COA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07

EPA-04 INR-07 L-02 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 OES-05

SS-15 SP-02 OIC-02 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 DOTE-00

FMC-02 CG-00 DLOS-05 /145 W
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R 112128Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6602

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMCONSUL NICE

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 03714

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UNEP, PLOS, XF, XH, XG

SUBJECT: BARCELONA II - UNEP SPONSORED PREPARATORY

MEETING ON MEDITERRANEAN SEA POLLUTION CONTROL:

CONVENTION AND ACTION PROGRAMS

1. SUMMARY: REPRESENTATIVES OF SIXTEEN MEDITERRANEAN

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GOVERNMENTS MET AT BARCELONA JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 4,

1975 TO INITIATE DRAFTING A CONVENTION ON MEDITERRANEAN POLLUTION AND TO OUTLINE AN ACTION PROGRAM FOR POLLUTION ASSESSMENT AND ABATEMENT. THE MEETING, SPONSORED BY THE UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM, MADE NOTEWORTHY PROGRESS IN SEVERAL ASPECTS: THE CONCEPT OF A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION WITH SUBORDINATE PROTOCOLS CONCERNING DUMPING, COMBATTING OIL POLLUTION, POLLUTION FROM SHIPS AND POSSIBLY LAND-BASED SOURCES OF POLLUTION WAS AGREED; GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF A PROGRAM OF RESEARCH, MONITORING AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WAS AGREED; THE MEETING WAS HELD WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL ARGUMENTS AND WITHOUT LENGTHY DEBATE ON LAW OF THE SEA ISSUES. THE REPRESENTATIVES DECIDED THAT MEETINGS OF LEGAL AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS SHOULD BE HELD AT GENEVA DURING APRIL 7-12, 1975 AND THAT A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE TO CONCLUDE THE CONVENTION SHOULD BE HELD AT BARCELONA ON FEBRUARY 2-13, 1975. END SUMMARY.

2. THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES PARTICIPATED (NUMBER IN DELEGATION): ALGERIA (9), EGYPT (2), FRANCE (7), GREECE (7), ISRAEL (2), ITALY (9), ITALY (9), LEBANON (2), LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC (6), MALTA (4), MONACO (4), MOROCCO (2), SPAIN (28), SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC (3), TUNISIA (2), TURKEY (12), YUGOSLAVIA (3). THE USSR, UK AND USA ATTENDED AS OBSERVERS (ONE REPRESENTATIVE EACH). INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED: ECA, ECE, ECWA, UNDP, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, IBRD, WMO, IMCO, IAEA, ALESCO, ECE, ICSEM, OAU, OECD. THE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS TOTALED 134 PEOPLE. THE GOVERNMENTS OF ALBANIA AND CYPRUS, ALTHOUGH INVITED, WERE NOT REPRESENTED.

3. UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STRONG OPENED THE MEETING. SPAIN'S UNDER SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, FERNANDO DE YBARRA, WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN. MR. EL-WAKEEL OF EGYPT, DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY AND FISHERIES, AND MR. SCIOLLA-LAGRANGE OF ITALY'S MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WERE ELECTED VICE-CHAIRMEN. POSSIBLY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN UN CIRCLES ARABIC WAS INCLUDED AS ONE OF THE WORKING LANGUAGES OF THE CONFERENCE. THE CONFERENCE APPROVED A DRAFT REPORT WHICH WILL BE PRINTED BY UNEP IN GENEVA AND DISTRIBUTED

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IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS OF CONFERENCE. THE DELEGATES AGREED THAT A COORDINATED POLLUTION MONITORING AND RESEARCH PROGRAM SHOULD CONSIST OF (NO PRIORITY DESIGNATED): A. BASELINE STUDIES AND MONITORING OF OIL AND PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS IN MARINE WATERS, B. OF METALS, PARTICULARLY MERCURY, IN MARINE ORGANISMS, C. OF DDT, PCB'S AND OTHER

CHLORINATED HYDROCARBONS IN MARINE ORGANISMS; D. EFFECTS
OF POLLUTANTS ON MARINE ORGANISMS, E. ON MARINE ECO-
SYSTEMS; F. COASTAL TRANSPORT PROBLEM OF POLLUTANTS;
G. COASTAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM. WITH
APPROPRIATE CONSULTATIONS, UNEP WAS ASKED TO CONVENE
MEETINGS OF EXPERTS TO DETAIL EACH OF THE ABOVE SEVEN
PROJECTS (OPERATIONAL PHASE TO BE AT LEAST TWO YEARS);
TO HELP TRAIN AREA SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICIANS; PROVIDE
ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT; KEEP AREA GOVERNMENTS CURRENTLY
INFORMED; FOCUS ON DEVELOPING NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS;
CONVENE MEETINGS OF TECHNICAL AND LEGAL EXPERTS (APRIL

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7-12, 1975, GENEVA) TO PUSH FORWARD A DRAFT CONVENTION
WITH PROTOCOLS; WITH FAO CALL A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFER-
ENCE (BARCELONA FEB. 2-13, 1976) TO CONCLUDE THE CON-
VENTION AND ITS PREPARED PROTOCOLS; TO WORK ON PROMOTING
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ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS.

5. IMCO '73 CONVENTION WAS SUPPORTED WITH RESOLVE FOR
COASTAL STATES TO BECOME PARTY TO THE CONVENTION, TO
PRESS FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN TO BECOME A SPECIAL AREA
UNDER ANNEX II, AND FOR EACH COASTAL STATE TO PUT IN
SHORE FACILITIES PER ANNEX I AND II.

6. AS A RESULT OF A TEDIOUS DRAFTING EXERCISE, UNEP
WAS REQUESTED TO (KEEPING ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS TO A
MINIMUM) ESTABLISH SIMPLE COORDINATING MECHANISMS THROUGH
EXISTING NATIONAL AUTHORITIES TO CARRY OUT THE RECOM-
MENDATION AND KEEP PROGRESS UNDER REVIEW, CONSULTING
GOVERNMENTS OF THE REGION AS APPROPRIATE, OR, IF NECES-
SARY, PROPOSE NEW REGIONAL ORGANISMS, HAVING CONSIDERED
THE PROPOSALS BY MALTA, MONACO AND OTHERS YET TO COME
FORWARD, TO ACCOMPLISH NEEDED COORDINATION. MALTA'S
PROPOSAL FOR A REGIONAL CENTER WAS SPIRITUALLY ACCEPTED
WHEN REDUCED TO A REGIONAL OIL-COMBATTING CENTER.
MONACO ASKED ONLY TO PROVIDE A HOME FOR THE SECRETARIAT
OF THE FUTURE CONVENTION AND PROTOCOLS. THE RESOLUTION
ASKED UNEP NOT TO EXCEED ITS BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS.

7. LAW OF THE SEA ISSUES. ALTHOUGH NOT MATTERS OF
EXTENSIVE DEBATE, THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN THIS CATEGORY
ARE NOTED: TURKEY CAME WITH AN OVERLOADED DELEGATION TO
SELL THE DE-INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE SEA OF MARMARA.
BY TREATY OF 1920(S) THIS AREA IS INTERNATIONAL;
TURKEY OBSERVED THE 1973 IMCO CONVENTION BECAUSE OF
THIS ISSUE, AND ARGUED AT BARCELONA FOR THE DEFINITION
OF THE MEDITERRANEAN NOT TO BE THE IMCO VERSION,
I.E. 41-DEGREE N PARALLEL. TURKEY WANTS TO ESTABLISH
NATIONAL POLLUTION STANDARDS FOR THIS AREA. THIS
PROPOSAL WAS LEFT UNSUPPORTED BY MANY OTHER DELEGATIONS;
ALGERIA HELD THAT WARSHIPS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO CONVEN-

TION PROVISION; OTHERS, INCLUDING FRANCE, HELD THAT THE LONDON '72 OCEAN DUMPING CONVENTION CONTAINED APPROPRIATE TREATMENT OF WARSHIPS; ALGERIA ALSO PROPOSED THAT OVERFISHING BE INCLUDED WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF SOURCES OF POLLUTION -- NO SUPPORT WAS FORTHCOMING. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE TURKEY ISSUE, NO SUBSTANTIVE LOS
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ISSUES EMERGED; MOST DELEGATIONS FELT THE CONVENTION WOULD BE MORE EASILY CONCLUDED AFTER THE GENEVA LOS SESSION.

8. '72 LONDON OCEAN DUMPING CONVENTION ISSUES. SPAIN PUSHED FOR ALL RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNEX I. ALTHOUGH SOME DELEGATIONS SPOKE FOR EARLY RATIFICATION OF THIS CONVENTION BY MEDITERRANEAN STATES, THE MEETING DID NOT INCLUDE SUCH LANGUAGE IN ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

9. FUTURE U.S. PARTICIPATION. THE U.S. OBSERVER WAS UNOFFICIALLY INVITED TO BE PRESENT (AS AN OBSERVER) AT THE FEBRUARY 1976 BARCELONA II MEETING. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT AN OFFICIAL INVITATION FOR THE U.S. TO ATTEND AS AN OBSERVER WILL BE FORTHCOMING. AS FOR THE APRIL MEETINGS IN GENEVA, PROBABLY THERE WILL BE NO OBJECTION TO ONE U.S. OBSERVER ATTENDING. BY ATTENDING THE GENEVA AND BARCELONA MEETINGS A U.S. OBSERVER, THROUGH CORRIDOR CONTACTS, SHOULD BE ABLE TO HELP MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE USE (AS SEEN FROM U.S. VIEW) OF THE IMCO AND THE 1972 LONDON OCEAN DUMPING CONVENTION PROVISIONS IN THE NEW CONVENTION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN. AS THIS SUBJECT REACHES THEIR ATTENTION, REPORTS TO THE DEPARTMENT FROM ADDRESSEE POSTS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN KEEPING OES INFORMED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS CONVENTION. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF U.S. MISSION GENEVA AND THE SCIENCE ATTACHE, U.S. EMBASSY MADRID, SALMON WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP INFORMED ON THIS SUBJECT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDES OTHER INSTRUCTIONS.
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